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NEWS

NMTBA
The Association For
Manufacturing Technology

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January Machine Tool Orders Down

January machine tool orders fell to $230.85 million, down 27.1% compared to December's $316.45 million, according to figures released today by NMTBA – The Association For Manufacturing Technology. Metal cutting machine tool orders were down 32.2% to $167.00 million, while metal forming orders fell 8.9% to $63.85 million.

Compared to January a year ago, total orders were down 22.4%, with metal cutting orders off 25.4% and metal forming off 13.2%.

NMTBA's new president, Albert W. Moore, said, "Nineteen eighty–eight was a very good year for our industry. We saw a turnaround after several difficult years. Total orders were the highest they've been since 1980. Although January orders have shown a decline, we remain confident that the industry is back on the right track. We have a new Administration at the helm in Washington and it is not unusual for business investors to sit back and take a look at things during a transitional period. Manufacturers both here and abroad are watching the as yet unknown Bush Administration."

He continued, "One thing is very clear, Americans must import less and export more. This is as true of capital equipment as it is of automobiles and televisions. It is crucial to American manufacturers that their government's policies help -- and not hinder — them as they move ever more aggressively into world markets."

(more)

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January shipments fell to $152.20 million, down 48.0% compared to December. Metal cutting shipments were down 50.9%, while metal forming shipments fell 40.7%. This month–to–month decline reflects the usual year–end surge in shipments.

Compared to January a year ago, total shipments were up 6.2%, with metal cutting shipments up 44.5% and metal forming down 31.6%.

The machine tool order backlog for January 1989 stood at $2,269.90 million, up from the $2,191.25 million figure at the close of 1988.

# # #

COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JAN 1989	145.45	21.55	167.00	56.60	7.25	63.85	202.05	28.80	230.85
DEC 1988	191.50	54.90	246.40	60.20	9.85	70.05	251.70	64.75	316.45
% CHANGE JAN 1989:DEC 1988	-24.0	-60.7	-32.2	-6.0	-26.4	-8.9	-19.7	-55.5	-27.1
JAN 1988	205.75	18.20	223.95	60.30	13.25	73.55	266.05	31.45	297.50
% CHANGE JAN 1989:JAN 1988	-29.3	+18.4	-25.4	-6.1	-45.3	-13.2	-24.1	-8.4	-22.4
YEAR TO DATE 1989									
YEAR TO DATE 1988		N/A			N/A			N/A	
% CHANGE 1989 : 1988									

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JAN 1989	89.50	13.35	102.85	42.20	7.15	49.35	131.70	20.50	152.20
DEC 1988	186.40	22.95	209.35	64.30	18.90	83.20	250.70	41.85	292.55
% CHANGE JAN 1989:DEC 1988	-52.0	-41.8	-50.9	-34.4	-62.2	-40.7	-47.5	-51.0	-48.0
JAN 1988	61.60	9.60	71.20	64.05	8.10	72.15	125.65	17.70	143.35
% CHANGE JAN 1989:JAN 1988	+45.3	+39.1	+44.5	-34.1	-11.7	-31.6	+4.8	+15.8	+6.2
YEAR TO DATE 1989									
YEAR TO DATE 1988		N/A			N/A			N/A	
% CHANGE 1989 : 1988									

Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$3,065.10	$ 525.75	$3,590.85	$2,191.25	$2,102.30	$ 296.80	$2,399.10
1989							
JAN (P)	$ 202.05	$ 28.80	$ 230.85	$2,269.90	$ 131.70	$ 20.50	$ 152.20

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$3,180.25	$ 541.75	$3,722.00	$ 115.15	$ 16.00	$ 131.15
1989						
JAN (P)	$ 211.60	$ 29.80	$ 241.40	$ 9.55	$ 1.00	$ 10.55

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$ 749.35	$ 133.60	$ 882.95	$ 385.75	$ 702.20	$ 122.35	$ 824.55
1989 JAN (P)	$ 56.60	$ 7.25	$ 63.85	$ 400.25	$ 42.20	$ 7.15	$ 49.35

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$ 788.25	$ 138.45	$ 926.70	$ 38.90	$ 4.85	$ 43.75
1989 JAN (P)	$ 60.50	$ 7.50	$ 68.00	$ 3.90	$ .25	$ 4.15

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$2,315.75	$ 392.15	$2,707.90	$1,805.50	$1,400.10	$ 174.45	$1,574.55
1989							
JAN (P)	$ 145.45	$ 21.55	$ 167.00	$1,869.65	$ 89.50	$ 13.35	$ 102.85

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1988	$2,392.00	$ 403.30	$2,795.30	$ 76.25	$ 11.15	$ 87.40
1989						
JAN (P)	$ 151.10	$ 22.30	$ 173.40	$ 5.65	$ .75	$ 6.40

P - Preliminary
Source: NMTBA - The Association For Manufacturing Technology